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MEMORANDUM

September 8, 1999

TO: Senate Committee on Insurance, Tourism

Transportation & Corrections

FR: Senator Roger Breske, Chair RE: Proposed Administrative Rule

Below, please find the description of a proposed administrative rule recently referred to the Senate Committee on Insurance, Tourism, Transportation & Corrections. For your reference, I have included a brief summary of the rule, prepared by the department. If you would like a copy of this rule, or if you would like to request a hearing, please contact Vaughn in my office before October 1st.

CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 98-168; relating to operator's licenses and identification cards. This rule proposes to make routine updates to the driver licensing provisions of the administrative code. The changes proposed are as follows:

- Update references to licenses and restriction cards to reflect the fact that the Division of Motor Vehicles is now producing driver licenses in a new manner that contain digital images of drivers. For example, provisions related to restriction cards are repealed because the Department no longer issues restriction cards under the new system.
- Update provisions, where appropriate, to reflect the fact that this new technology will allow the Department to issue photo licenses by mail in appropriate situations, such as to annually update farm service restrictions on a license. Provides authority for the Department to cancel licenses issued by mail if the driver does not surrender his or her prior license.
- Prohibits the Department from issuing a person a first regular driver license in Wisconsin if the Department's computer database is not operational and the person's driver record cannot be checked.
- Reflects the fact that driver licenses are now issued for eight years rather than for four years.
- Eliminates all references to a driver's place of birth in accordance with recent statutory amendments that removed the requirement that a driver prove his or her place of birth as a prerequisite to being licensed, bringing the rule into conformity with ss. 343.6(1)(j) and 343.19(1), Stats. as amended by 1997 Wis. Act 27, ss. 4065 and 4084.
- Modifies the lists of acceptable identification documents.